
IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 18, 1867.

Read twice and referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

AN ACT

To amend the act entitled "An act to incorporate Newsboys' Home," and also for the relief of abandoned children in the District of Columbia.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the name of the Newsboys' Home be changed to that
4 of the "Newsboys' Home and Children's Aid Society" of the
5 District of Columbia, and that the powers and duties of the
6 president and board of managers be enlarged so that they
7 may receive such vagrant, indigent, or abandoned minor
8 children as may be committed to their custody, as hereinafter
9 provided for; also, at their discretion, they may receive from
10 parents or others charged with the maintenance of minor
11 children, whom said parents and other persons have not the
12 means of maintaining, the children of such parents, and
13 children under the care of such other persons, as is herein-
14 after provided.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That said association
2 be fully empowered to provide and care for all such minor
3 children, in such manner as they may deem proper, so as best
4 to secure their welfare, food, clothing, mental and moral
5 training; and for this purpose they may provide homes in
6 the families of competent persons anywhere within the United
7 States, and convey such minor children to said homes, and
8 execute, under the seal of said corporation, proper writings,
9 securing to the heads of families or others so selected the
10 control and management of said children for the period therein
11 set forth, and which shall also secure to said children proper
12 maintenance, care, and education; and said writings so exe-
13 cuted shall secure to such persons the exclusive custody and
14 care of such children for the period named, against the claim
15 and interference of all persons whomsoever.

1 SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That, upon com-
2 plaint in writing, on oath, of any reliable person, all courts
3 and magistrates of said District, authorized by law to issue
4 process, are empowered to cause to be brought before them
5 all destitute or abandoned minor children and the minor
6 children of beggars or vagrants, and of all others who have
7 not the means or who refuse to support and maintain such
8 minor children, or abuse them, so that they can be shown to
9 be destitute or abandoned, vagrant or abused, to be dealt with
10 as provided for in this act; for which purpose they may sub-

11 poena witnesses and hear the allegations of the parties in
12 interest ; and in proper cases made by proof to commit such
13 children to the custody and care of the Newsboys' Home and
14 Children's Aid Society ; and said commitment shall vest the
15 exclusive control of such children in said association for the
16 full period therein named, to the exclusion of all other per-
17 sons whomsoever ; and said courts and magistrates shall keep
18 a proper record of all such cases when for any causes the
19 persons before them are committed to the Newsboys' Home
20 and Children's Aid Society, showing the name, age, sex, and
21 length of time of such committal. And it is made the
22 further duty of said courts and magistrates to report each
23 year to the supreme court of the District of Columbia all
24 such cases. It is also made the duty of the marshal, his
25 deputies, and all police officers, constables, and bailiffs of the
26 District of Columbia to execute all processes authorized by
27 this act which shall come to them severally. The supreme
28 court of said District shall also prescribe the proper forms to
29 be used by the courts, magistrates, and other officers of the
30 District to carry this act into execution and fix the time when
31 the annual report shall be made hereinbefore provided for,
32 and shall also establish a table of fees for the services required
33 to be performed, which shall be paid as other costs in like
34 cases in the District are now paid.

1 SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That all persons in the

2 District of Columbia, the parents of minor children, or
3 charged with the maintenance of minor children whom they
4 are, for want of means, unable to maintain, may, upon making
5 that to appear to the satisfaction of the president and board
6 of managers of the Newsboys' Home and Children's Aid
7 Society, by writing properly executed to said president and
8 board, transfer to them the care and custody of such minor
9 children for the full period of time for which persons stand
10 charged with the maintenance of such minor children, and
11 such written transfer shall vest the custody of such minor
12 children in said Newsboys' Home and Children's Aid Society
13 against all persons whomsoever; further, when so committed
14 such parents or guardians shall have no power to interfere
15 with such children, or disturb said society, or any person to
16 whom said society may bind or otherwise dispose of said
17 children, either in this District or elsewhere; and any inter-
18 ference with said children or other children committed to said
19 society may be punished by the criminal court or justices of
20 the peace in the United States, by a fine not to exceed twenty
21 dollars or imprisonment not to exceed thirty days; but any
22 parent or guardian may apply to said criminal court or said
23 justices of the peace in any complaint that they may desire to
24 make as to said society dealing with said children.

1 SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the
2 duty of the president and board of managers of said asso-

3 ciation to keep a full and complete record of its doings and
4 proceedings under this act, which shall, at all proper times,
5 be accessible to all persons for information. They shall also
6 annually report to the supreme court of said District the num-
7 ber of children received, indicating whether by regular com-
8 mitment or voluntary transfer, with the name, age, sex, and
9 disposition of the same, with a summary of the success and
10 prosperity of said association. They shall also have power to
11 establish proper and necessary by-laws for the transaction of
12 business and the regulation of the affairs of the association,
13 and to do all the necessary acts and things to accomplish the
14 full objects of this aid.

Passed the House of Representatives February 16, 1867.

Attest:

EDWARD McPHERSON, *Clerk,*

By CLINTON LLOYD, *Chief Clerk.*